C for Mrs W

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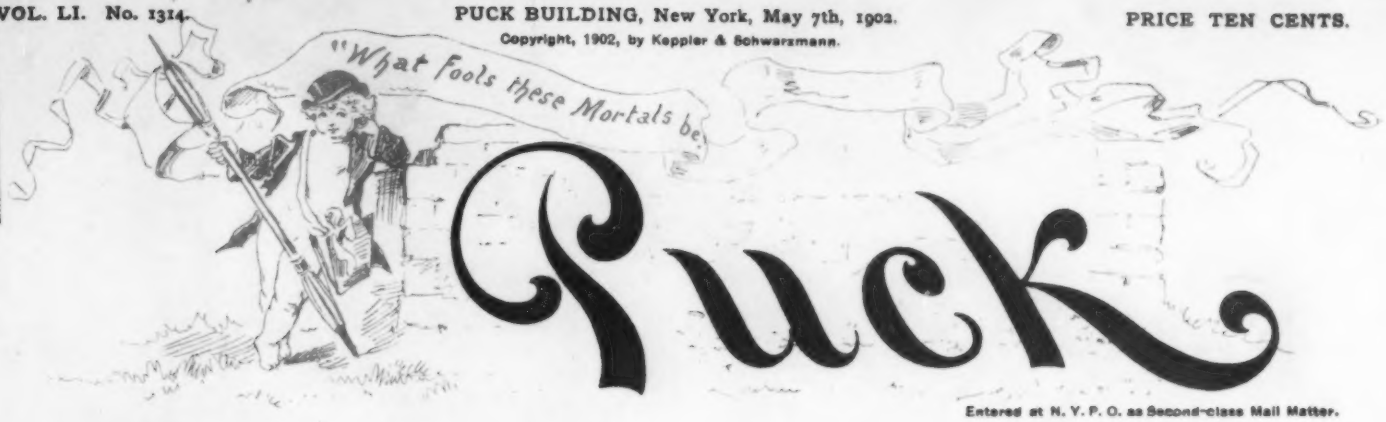


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FRIGHTENED.

ONE OF THEM.

"Ah! There are some blissful moments between the eggshell and the boarding-house table!

## LITERARY NOTES.

M. Z. Inkwell announces that he is busy with the most important work of his life. He has retired to his favorite palace, in Vermont, where he is writing 40,000 words, profusely illustrated, on the back of a postage stamp.

Miss Beatrice Bungstarter, author of the fifteen best-selling novels of the year, was seventeen years old last week. She received informally. Special trains were run from New York, New Orleans and San Francisco. Miss Bungstarter made a speech from the portico of her home, a modest house covering less than six acres, and in nowise superior to the houses of many railway presidents, although the lady is one of the most successful writers of the day.

Contractors on the New York subway are thinking of using the waste material in the construction of historical romances. Leading publishers are inclined to regard the project as practicable.

SPEAKING of General Miles, there are perhaps circumstances which justify a soldier in airing his grievances, but none that justify him in hot-airing these.

WHEN WE reflect that every Daughter or Son of the Revolution had at least one ancestor fighting for our independence the wonder is that Great Britain held out so long.

## A TERRIBLE SHOCK.

"There goes Hogan, th' domb rayformer! He throied t' saycure ividence av a vi'lation av th' Raines Law, lasht Soonday, be offerin' t' pay fer a dhrink he got."

"He did?"

"He did."

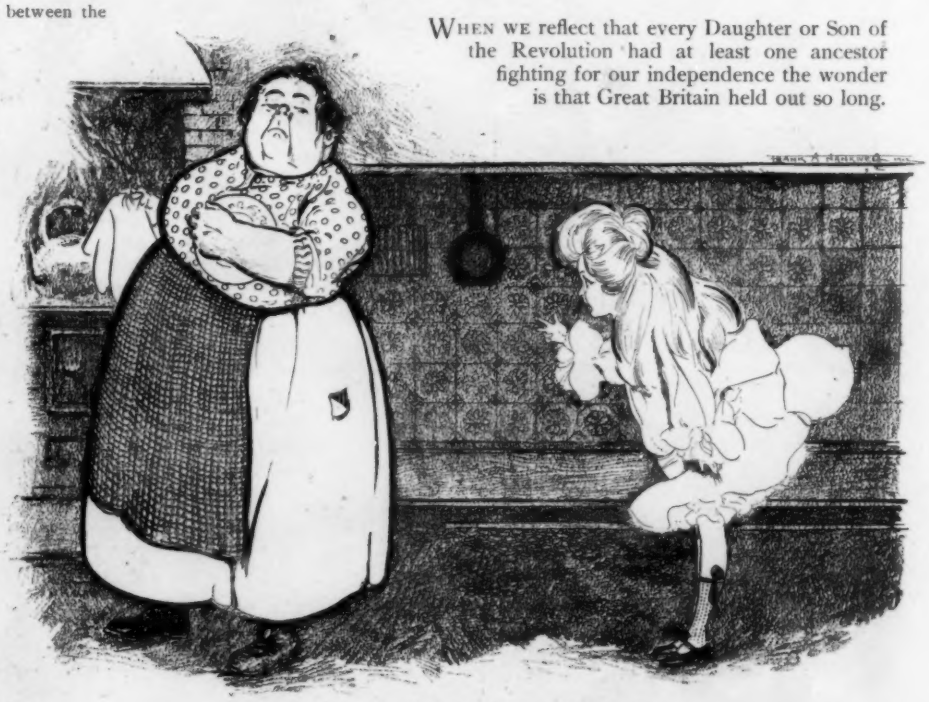
"An' did he?"

"He did not;—th' bartinder shwooned away!"

PROTECTION at home and an open door abroad may be a satisfactory international platform if you don't try to reconcile the planks.

IF IT is absolutely necessary to defend the policy of Chinese exclusion, perhaps we might plead that the Chinese would do as much for us if they could.

CAPITAL AND LABOR are thoroughly well persuaded that the interest of each is the interest of the other. The rub comes in deciding whose interest it is.



AN IMPENDING CHANGE.

FLOSSIE.—I 'm afraid, Bridget, that Mama is dissatisfied with you.

BRIDGET.—Is she, now? Faith, thin, she 'll soon have a chance to be dissatisfied wit' somebody else!

***What we are fond of calling common sense is often simply the faculty of making monkeys of ourselves comfortably rather than conventionally.***

### INTERESTING OCCUPATION.

First Maid.—Marie has a lot of correspondence to attend to.

Second Maid.—Correspondence?

First Maid.—Yes. She reads her mistress's letters.

### AS WE ADVANCE.

Faster presses are devised, and the processes of making paper are cheapened until it comes to pass that farmers who make any pretense at all of keeping posted in literature have only ten minutes left each day to devote to their crops.

A dearth falls upon the land.

The legislature interposes to restrict the production of books, enacting that nobody shall write more than one great historical novel per month.

But hereupon a new evil threatens. The enforced idleness of the great writing classes begets a dangerous restiveness.

Some think the last state of the nation is likely to be worse than the first.

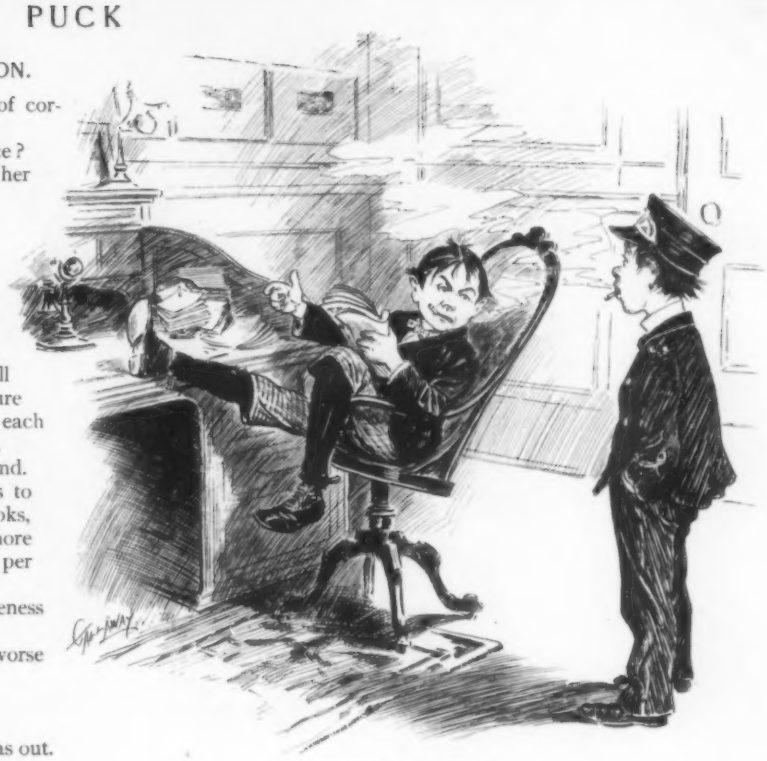
### AMPLE TIME.

The Suburban Fireman.—We got there after the fire was out.

His Wife.—Well, it could n't last forever!

The public is a thick-headed, conceited, coarse, unfeeling ass; that 's how it happens to be janitor of the Temple of Fame.

The windows of a fat public office exhibit peculiar refractive power. A man looking out through them at political issues gets some of the most curious impressions.



### DISCOURAGING.

The Messenger Boy.—Well, how d' yer like mercantile life?

The Office Boy.—Aw, de boss don't give me any encouragement.

The Messenger Boy.—How 's dat?

The Office Boy.—Why, he never gives me a look when I 'm workin'; but just as soon as I start ter loaf a bit, he 's Johnny-on-de-spot wit' his eagle eye.

### OCCASIONALLY.

"Yes; they are married at last. It was a long time before she accepted him."

"Well, perseverance overcomes obstacles."

"Yes; and sometimes it wishes it had n't."

PREMATURE CONGRATULATION.

"'T is a mercy we are not in danger!"
"Not in danger! Dost not see thy wife approaching?"

## PREFERABLE.

GOSHKONONG, . . . ., 1902.

DEAR NEPHEW JOHN: — I take my pen in hand to let you know that we are all just about as well as could be expected under the prevailin' circumstances; and them two boys of your'n, that ye sent down here from the city to escape the small-pox — Well, please take 'em home and send down the small-pox instead. Small-pox may kill ye occasionally, but it don't holler all the time, or eat everlastin'ly, or set the barn afire, or tin-can the dog, or break up the settin' hens, or fool ye into draggin' the pond for its dead body, or git ye at outs with all your neighbors. So, no more at present from

Your lovin' uncle, EZRA J. BENTOVER.

## SPRING FANCIES.

In the Spring a livelier glimmer
Shines upon the halt and lame;
In the Spring our Nine 's a winner,
But that 's before they play a game.

WHEN PHILOSOPHY, by careful mental culture, arrives at a point where it can feel comfortable, people begin to call it "Egotism."

SPEAKING of automobiling, there is no possible objection to a man making a donkey of himself; but we do draw the line at his making mince-meat of the rest of us.

## INVADED.

'TIS "cleaning day!" My peaceful den,
Which long has had its ease,
And wakened but to scratch of pen
Or rhyme of clicking keys,
Is roused to hear a swirl of skirt,
A swish of ruthless broom;
To hear its halo branded "dirt!"
Oh! Most unhappy room!

Dear, harmless things, from where they 've lain
And blissfully have dozed
Are hauled apace, with might and main,
And heartlessly exposed.
Old friends, who to my cluttered board
Their dignity have lent,
Are forced to flight, with one accord,
By hands irreverent.

The whirlwind passes. Through the door
I timidly advance.
Poor desk, so bare! Poor desert floor!
Which eye me back askance.
My rusty nibs — my spattered pad —
My papers — where are they?
My faithful cronies — all, egad!
All safely "put away!"

'Mid shelves I peer, through draw'rs I beat,
With mingled hope and doubt,
Till, lo! from many an odd retreat
My chums come gladly out!
"She 's gone, with broom and cloth!" we laugh,
"That foe of our delights."
And in a minute and a half
I set the place to rights!

*Edwin L. Sabin.*

ONE EXCEPTION.

YOUNG SOFTSMITH. — "Love levels all things," they say.
OLD GRIMM — All things but the head.

EVERY MAN has a right to his own opinion, but comparatively few of them have anything more than the right.

A THEOLOGICAL GUESS.

BERTHA. — What is all this "New Thought" religion?
BILLY. — Oh! Just croquettes made out of the Old Thought.

MISSING THE SPECTACLE.

"Ha! Ha! Ever see anything like that?"
"But I 'm sorry for that poor zebra. He can't see what a funny thing he has on his back!"

### A BAD START.

SOLOMON.— My cracious! Dot vos a pad vailure of young Dobensky's. Five cents on der tollar!

LEVY.— He 'll findt oudt next time dot dose get-rich-quvick schemes don't pay.

STINGY THINGS.

WAITER.— Very sorry, Ma'am, but we can't allow that dog at the breakfast table!

LADY.— What an idea! Why, he eats scarcely anything!

### THE COMEDY OF PRETENSE.

ELEANOR.— What made you give up Society, Edmonia?

EDMONIA.— Oh! I got so dead-tired of seeing people who are nobody trying to act like somebody; and people who are somebody acting like nobody.

### CHARITY.

Once upon a time there was a wretchedly poor family, who lived in the slums, and were very, very happy until a College Settlement was located in their neighborhood.

After that, somebody from the Settlement was all the time dropping in and showing them how to set a table for six or how to make Roman chairs out of the beer kegs they had been in the habit of throwing away.

"It is because we are poor!" moaned the family, after a few weeks of this.

Now, they were too proud to steal except in a purely amateur way, and as it would be cowardly to move, they went to work and raised themselves to a position of affluence.

MORAL.—The way to cure poverty is to make the poor uncomfortable.

### A LITERARY BOOMER.

STUBBS.— My new novel will be read, I tell you!

SCRUBBS.— How do you know?

STUBBS.— Why, my publishers are offering a five thousand dollar prize to the reader who guesses the name of it!

### FINESSE.

A somewhat little girl
Had a very little curl;
But it 's nothing more than just to her to state
That she divers measures took,
Whereby she made it look,
To casual inspection, something great.

***Impossible things can't be done; but impossible people are often quite easy to do.***

## QUOITS.

"WHEN I WAS at the gander-necked age," said the Old Codger, reminiscently, "I thought it was the height of hilarious frivolity to pitch quoits. Quoits, or 'quates,' as we called the game, was played by the ancients with flat stones or metal discs, but we used horseshoes. A couple of pegs were driven into the ground, down yonder where it would be handy for us to lop around in the shade of the lumber-yard shed. Every player had three horseshoes, which, as he stood with one heel against one of the pegs, he endeavored to pitch so 's they would ring the other peg. One hundred points constituted the game. A 'ringer' counted twenty, a 'leaner' ten, a 'toucher' five; or if none of those were accomplished the quoit lying nearest the peg counted one. The player who threw three 'ringers' in succession cut a great caper, while he who threw five without breakin' the sequence was worthy of bein' knighted.

"Along with the game dragged an accompaniment of yawnin's and gol-darns and hyper-critical and scathing comments on the errors and weaknesses of our feller-villagers, and scornful and sulphuric condemnations of the rich and powerful and enterprisin' everywhere, together with proud boasts, backed by offers to wager enormous sums, of the superiority and prowess of various horses and dogs, a large and outward contempt for all authority, and a small and inward cringin' from our prospective reception at home.

"Well, as I say, I used to enjoy playin' it; but, finally, I got to thinkin' it over. There was no possible reward to be obtained from it; it bred idleness and shucklessness and worthlessness — it was a profitless pitchin' back and forth of paltry trifles. So I gave it up in disgust and patted myself on the back in a fatherly sort of way. But, as time has passed on, I 've taken notice of the amusements of the refined and high-bred of the land — yachtin' and automobiles and distinguished ancestors and golf and Daughters of This, That and the Other; stamp collectin', and marryin' actresses, and charity-ballin', and social supremacy, and old masters, and reformin' other people, and supportin' foreign noblemen, and shovin' libraries down the reluctant throats of people who did n't know they needed 'em, and gettin' divorces, and so forth. And, finally, I got to sorter comparin' 'em with quoits; and when, here just lately, you could n't read a paper without stumblin' over ping-pong, I just went and dug up three, four other old fogies, and we begged and stole an outfit of horseshoes; and now, when you need me, and you don't encounter me any place else, you can go down back of the lumber-yard and find me indulgin' in the dignified and useful game of quoits."

*Tom P. Morgan.*

PREPARING FOR EMERGENCIES.

GRANDMA.— He 's been good to-day.

LITTLE SISTER.— Yes. Mama told him if he was n't she 'd send him to bed without his supper.

GRANDMA.— May be he 's layin' in supplies in case of trouble.

## SOPHISTICATION.

Under the contract which Paul and Virginia made with the man, they were to pay for the furniture in ten years.

But, alas! for their inexperience.

In their innocent horror of being in debt, these young people paid the last instalment before the end of five years, whereupon the furniture fell to pieces.

"We shan't make that mistake again!" they exclaimed, after they had had a good cry; and when they bought a second time they paid the instalments only as they fell due, and the furniture lasted the full ten years.

HOW TO PICK A WINNER — Wait until after the race.

## A MATTER OF LEGS.

I.

FROG.— Well, if there is n't a bird walking on the water!

II.

"Oh!!!!!!....."

## STATESMANSHIP.

When one day the people thought they saw a bogie man they were much disturbed. But the party in power shouted down to them to be of good cheer.

"There is no bogie man," said the party in power. "Besides, he is a good thing. Besides, publicity will kill him."

"Huzza!" cried the people, quite restored in mind, and spoke one with another, exclaiming that the party in power was, after all, certainly about the only party of real constructive statesmanship.

*PUCK*

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY.

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KEPPLER & SCHWARZMANN,
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## CARTOONS AND COMMENTS.

FIRM AND FAIR.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT presents the unfamiliar but wholly edifying spectacle of a man who is greater than his party. He has little patience with the manifest endeavors of dyed-in-the-wool politicians to mar his administration by paltry and selfish measures. He has made no overt demonstration of petulance; at the same time he has stood like a rock for fairness to Cuba and the greatest good to the greatest number in all legislation with which his party has been concerned. He is not a one-party man; for there is no one party which is purely and at all times patriotic. To date he is just and discriminating. He appears to be bound neither by outgrown traditions of ultra protection, nor by expediency at the expense of decency. If he maintains his standard he will command the support of the better element of Democrats and Republicans alike. When he needs votes he is likely to get them.

A GLORIOUS CAUSE.

MISS ELLEN M. STONE will lecture to us. Major Pond's contract gives him the chance of his life. He may conduct the glorious lecture-campaign with the happy knowledge that every cent of the proceeds can be paid to Miss Stone's creditors. For she has given assurances that her object in lecturing is to pay back what it cost to get her here. We congratulate Miss Stone; we felicitate Major Pond. But it is to the ransomed one's audiences that our heart goes out. By paying a merely nominal sum per seat the men and women who went into their pockets to procure the lecturer from abroad will be able to see, hear and be thrilled. An entire lecture for the price of two admissions. Yet a terrifying query looms upon the horizon of gladsome anticipation: will it take all we can raise now to deliver Miss Stone from Major Pond's hands? We can not be sure but that the easier way to secure a red-hot financial success in the solution of this problem would be to raise a fund to hire the American Board of Foreign Missions to raise a fund to pay itself for its trouble. In any event, if we gambled we would bet the admission tickets that Major Pond and Miss Stone will emerge from the lecture tour hale and hearty, and with the unmistakable $-marks of Fame. There is n't too much cause for worry about the difficulties incident upon the proper distribution of the ninety thousand dollars, among those who originally gave it up. There are brigands and brigands. We Gentiles are an easy race.

A QUESTION OF MYTHS.

HAVING SETTLED the question of infant damnation to the satisfaction of elect infants, the Presbyterian Church is now confronted by candidates for its ministry who assert that Adam was a myth. We may not pretend to follow the tortuous lines of reasoning laid down either by the refractory candidates or by the orthodox to prove their case. Enough that the question is raised. Was Adam a myth? In other words, was he a Christian Science man? Did he merely believe that he existed? The young men from New Jersey do not believe even that much. Many accusations have been laid at Adam's door through the centuries, but it is hard that he should now suffer the ignominy of being called a myth—unless he was; in that case he would n't care. But the rest of us would. We have been accustomed to lay the burden of all our shortcomings upon Adam and original sin. Adam said Eve was to blame for the unpleasant Garden of Eden episode; she ought not to have taken to heart anything that an inconsequential myth alleged,—probably not; she was a myth, also. Hence we are children of myths. Therefore we are all myths. So we can have no interest in the matter. We really came from nothing, are nothing and care not at all. The next question some mythical son of a myth will present for consideration will be: "Whom did Cain marry?"

AT IT AGAIN.

THE ANTI-IMPERIALIST newspapers have shrieked out a hurry call for more ink. General Frederick Funston stands rebuked by President Roosevelt for talking too much. The fighter has been sending forth whole cohorts of naked sentiments to cavort in the camps of the peaceful. With a gravity so profound that it awes and paralyzes, the "antis" are laboring for the everlasting squelching of Funston. He disagreed with Senator Hoar; he pointedly said so; his language was alleged to be bad form. It was conventional and mild compared with the torrential abuse which the "anti" press pours upon the man who "swam the Pasig with a rope in his mouth." It is cunningly insinuated that nobody but a worthless cuss would swim the Pasig, anyhow! But with a rope in his mouth! Ah! That is damning!

### HARMLESS.

SI CHINWHISKERS.—Abe Pumpkinduster has changed his mind, an' now he believes in Trusts!

UNCLE GEEHAW.—Thet so?

SI CHINWHISKERS.—Yes. He 'lows, since he bought them five-cent shares of Goshall Hemlock Oil stock, thet 's formed a trust of all the oil-fields in Texas an' is goin' tew pay him six hundred per cent. a year, he has famil'arized himself with 'em, an' he don't see no harm in Trusts.

### AS IT OFTEN HAPPENS.

"He pays as he goes"—is much less verbose,
As a saying, than it is vapid;
He may pay as he goes everyone that he owes,
But what if his gait 's not rapid?

THE EXPERIENCES of Santos-Dumont indicate that it 's hard to keep a good man up.

IN WASHINGTON it is called a subsidy; in Bulgaria an indemnity; in China, loot; and there are other synonyms.

IN THE matter of our debt to posterity most of us are willing to let it run along until Posterity can do its own collecting.

IF THE British taxpayer could pay the Boer a substantial indemnity on the dead-quiet and get rid of him, we should see what we should see.

### THE IMPORTANT FACTOR.

THE CLERK.—Shall I put you down for a call in the morning?
THE CLERGYMAN (*absently*).—E—r, what is the salary?

J. OTTMANN LITH. CO. PUCK BLDG. N.Y.

BIGGER THAN—HIS PARTY.

G.O.P.
BROAD PATRIOTISM
INDEPENDENT JUDGMENT

HOME, SWEET HOME!

THE SOUBRETTE.—You appear awfully uneasy, to say the least. I thought you told me you were at home in the saddle?

THE LEADING MAN.—I am;—you don't know my wife!

---

THE OLD TATTOO.

IF YOU 've worn the ca-det gray,
If you 've worn the army blue,
Then at night and far away
You will hear the old tattoo.

Through the darkness and the rain,
Through the moonlight and the dew
Nightly came that olden call,
Came the beating of tattoo.

Then the files were friends and true;
Many times the seasons fade,
Still at night you hear tattoo
Starting from the far parade:

Hear the mellow, mellow fife,
And the rolling of the drum,
But you listen in the night,
And the night again is dumb.

Oh! The memories that come
With that seeming of tattoo,
If you 've worn the ca-det gray,
If you 've worn the army blue.

---

THE REWARD OF PATIENCE.

SUBURBANITE.—Pray, have patience!
COOK.—But the loneliness will drive me insane!
SUBURBANITE.—Precisely! And after you get to be thoroughly insane, you won't mind in the least.

SUFFICIENTLY STRENUOUS.

"Ain't had nothin' to eat!"
"Ah! I see. And why don't you work?"
"Gee! What do you call this?"

HIS NOTION.

MRS. HONK *(in the midst of her reading)*.—Mercy sakes! This item says that in Denmark they call the Emancipated Woman "*Frenskridtskvinde!*"

FARMER HONK.—Waal, them Denmarkers sartinly know how to do some mighty picturesque swearin', don't they?

THE MAN who is proud of his brains needs more.

AMONG THE less beautiful tendencies of free government is its tendency to lead public men into a damned-if-I-do and damned-if-I-don't way of looking at their duty.

LITTLE THINGS.

Little drops of water, charged with gas carbonic,
And a little Scotch and ice make a pleasant tonic;
And the little highball, humble though it be,
Can hold its own against the field for popularity.

IN MERCY.

"There seems to have been a most astonishing change of sentiment toward Smith. His former friends are working against him, while his former opponents are vigorously pushing his candidacy."

"Oh! There 's nothing astonishing about it. Smith has made so many promises that it 's a mercy to defeat him."

OUR IGNORANCE of our history as a people is not to be wondered at, in view of the great number of novels we buy dealing with our history.

HER POSITION.

MRS. PARKE.—What kind of servants do you prefer—white or black, Irish or German?

MRS. LANE.—I 've gotten beyond that I 'm looking for servants that prefer me

---

ADVERTISEMENT.

*(From the "Pelicanville Pumpkin Duster.")*

Send no money!

Order a gold brick from us and we will ship it to your nearest express office, where you may inspect it at your leisure. If you don't find it the biggest swindle ever offered the farmers of America, leave it; but if you are satisfied that it is genuine plaster of paris and not worth more than ten cents, pay the agent $10,000.

What could be fairer?

MEDIOCRE MEN are necessary. If all of us were bright enough to pass the civil service examinations, who would there be to work?

A POINT OF RESEMBLANCE.

"Vell, it 's nice to haf a fine voice even if you don't make no money oudt of it."

"Yes; it 's like a tiamondt—you know dere 's money in it even if you don't vant to get it oudt."

PUBLISHER'S ANNOUNCEMENT.

The Letters of John Smith, a schoolmate in his early years of Richard Roe, third cousin of John Doe, the author of "Waved to Scare 'Em," now in its 347th million.

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IT HAS HEARD.

"A committee of Congress has decided that it is right to say, 'The United States is,' and not 'The United States are.'"

"The committee has evidently heard from Appomattox."

COOKERY.

Modern cookery has brought it about that many a woman would rather cook than eat. Modern cookery has achieved this in two ways, viz.:

1. By making it more fun to cook; and,
2. By making it less fun to eat.

THE CIVIL SERVICE is divorced from politics, all right. The fat that is fried out of the officeholders in campaign years is alimony.

EVEN THOUGH the discovery of oil in Texas does not cheapen oil to the consumer, it is at least likely to engage much capital which might otherwise be starting new ten-cent magazines.

GRATEFUL ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

THE BUG.—I take off my hat to you, sir! It has been well said that the farmer feeds all!

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MANY a great man's greatness lies largely in his private secretary.—*Indianapolis News.*


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—SPURGEON.

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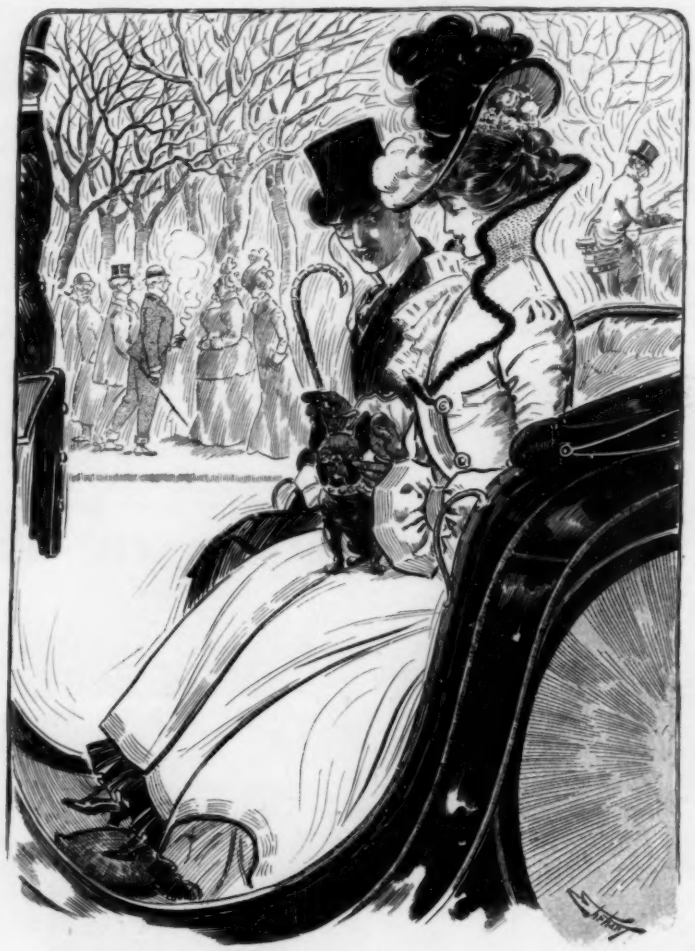

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MORAL.—That 's the way it is in Politics.—*Indianapolis News.*

AFTER a woman has a baby she wonders what in the world she ever found to worry about before it came.—*Atchison Globe.*

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OLD BOATMAN.—It is, Mum; but I don't mind the roughness.

OLD LADY.—Don't you, really?

OLD BOATMAN.—No, Mum. The only thing I don't like is the wetness. —*New York Weekly.*

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"Yes;" said the head man of the new settlement, "we 're after a railroad now."

"You don't say!"

"Yes; ef we could only git a railroad to come this way, kill a few cows an' cut off some o' the legs of the older citizens we 'd sue it fer damages an' git enough to build a town hall an' grade the cemetery!—*Atlanta Constitution.*

A BOY's idea of being manly is to be able to spit beyond his shoes, and rattle a bunch of keys in his pocket.—*Atchison Globe.*

"SOME MEN," said Uncle Eben, "is honest because dey is too good not to be. An' some is honest 'cause dey ain' got nerve enough to take any chances." —*Washington Star.*

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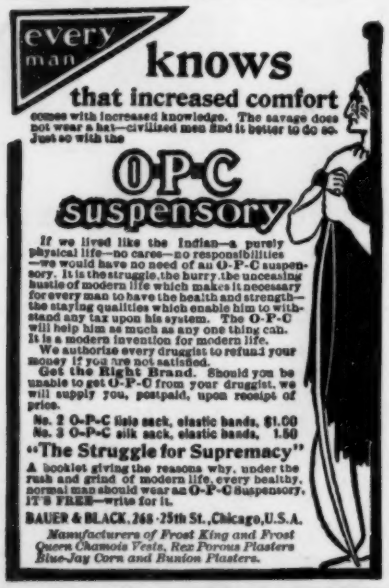




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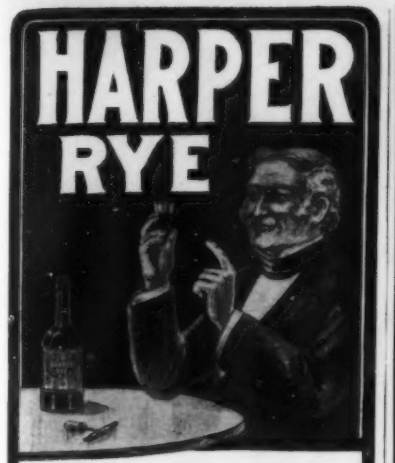


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UNCLE WAYBACK *(reassuringly)*.—Oh, no, Miss! He 's drawed so many of 'em up the hills hereabouts thet he 's lost all respect fer 'em!

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